Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. **Listing of Claims:**

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Previously Presented) A watercraft apparatus comprising:

a hull;

a jet pump;

an engine supported within the hull, the engine having a crankshaft and at least one camshaft, each camshaft being driven at a reduced speed relative to the crankshaft;

a coupling structure operatively coupling the jet pump to the at least one camshaft to drive the jet pump at the reduced speed of the camshaft, the jet pump supported for providing drive power to drive the hull on water.

2. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the reduced speed of the camshaft is one half the speed of the crankshaft.

3. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a retractable blade extendable below the bottom of the watercraft in response to a reduction in power from the engine to the jet pump below a predetermined amount.

4. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the engine and jet pump are supported by a take-out jet housing structure comprising:

a first housing containing the engine with the jet pump coupled thereto;

a second housing fixed to the hull;

a suspension system for suspending the first housing within the second housing and allowing the first housing to be removed from the second housing for inspection, repair or replacement.

5. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 4, wherein the suspension system comprises tubing attached to outside surfaces of the first housing, inside surfaces of the second housing or both.

6. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 5, wherein the suspension system further comprises a pressure source connected to the tubing, for providing pressurized fluid or gas into the tubing.

7. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 6, wherein the pressure source is controlled to provide pressurized fluid or gas in response to starting or running of the engine.

8. (Previously Presented) A watercraft apparatus comprising:

a hull;

a jet pump;

an engine supported within the hull, the engine having a crankshaft and at least one camshaft, each camshaft being driven at a reduced speed relative to the crankshaft;

a jet pump operatively coupled to the at least one camshaft to be driven at the reduced speed of the camshaft, the jet pump supported for providing drive power to drive the hull on water, wherein the jet pump is coupled to at least one camshaft through a direct connection link comprising a splined extension member and a matching socket, wherein the splined extension member is provided on either one of a sprocket of the camshaft or a rotor of the jet pump, and wherein the mating socket is provided on the other one of the sprocket or rotor.

9. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the jet pump is coupled to at least one camshaft through a direct connection link comprising a multi-bolt flange.

Claims 10 – 15 (Cancelled)

16. (Previously Presented) A watercraft apparatus comprising:

a hull;

a jet pump;

an engine supported within the hull and operatively coupled to the jet pump to provide power to the jet pump;

a retractable blade extendable below the bottom of the watercraft in response to a the a reduction in engine power to the jet pump below a predetermined amount, wherein the retractable blade comprises a blade member supported for pivotal motion about an axis of a shaft, an expandable and retractable cylinder connected to the blade member at a location laterally offset to one side of the shaft, to selectively pivot the blade member about the axis of the shaft with the expansion or retraction of the cylinder;

a filter supported by the hull, for filtering water before the water enters the jet pump, the filter comprising a movable filter element movable between higher and lower engine power positions, wherein the movable filter element is connected to the shaft to move between higher and lower engine power positions in response to rotation of the shaft.

Claims 17 – 20 (Cancelled)